

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 GUATEM 05760 122248Z

ACTION PM-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ACDA-07 MCE-00 AID-05 IGA-02 TRSE-00

OMB-01 /072 W

-----066799 130434Z /10

R 122227Z SEP 77

FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7460

INFO USCINCSO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GUATEMALA 5760

E.O. 11652 NA

TAGS: GT, MASS

SUBJ: PRESIDENT LAUGERUD EXPRESSES SATISFACTION WITH US ARMS
POSTURE

1. IN TWO ENCOUNTERS WITH LOCAL PRESS IN RECENT DAYS, PRESIDENT LAUGERUD HAS SHOWN A MODICUM OF SATISFACTION WITH U.S.M RESPONSIVENESS TO GUATEMALAN REQUESTS FOR MILITARY EQUIPMENT. RETURNING FROM WASHINGTON SEP 8, HE TOLD REPORTERS IT HAD NOT BEEN NECESSARY TO TAKE UP THE ISSUE OF ARMS SALES WITH PRESIDENT CARTER "INASMUCH AS THE MATTER IS ON TRACK (ESTA CAMINANDO)." DURING COVERAGE OF THE SPANISH KING'S VISIT SEP 11, LAUGERUD, CITING U.S. DISPOSITION TO SELL VEHICLES, GREANDES AND AMMUNITION, CHARACTERIZED THE USG AS #HAVING BECOME MORE FLEXIBLE" ON THE SUBJECT OF ARMS SALES.

2. COMMENT: THESE STATEMENTS REPRESENT A CONSIDERABLE CHANGE IN THE TENOR OF THE PRESIDENT'S PUBLIC COMMENTS ON U.S. ARMS POLICY TOWARD GUATEMALA. AS RECENTLY AS JULY, LAUGERUD CHAGED AT ALLEGED U.S. REFUSAL TO SELL TO GUATEMALA BECAUSE OF U.S. AFFINITY WITH BRITAIN (GUATEMALA 4583). HE AND OTHER GOG SPOKESMEN, IN LAMENTING THE SO-CALLED U.S. "EMBARGO",

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 GUATEM 05760 122248Z

HAD IGNORED THE FACT THAT MOST PURCHASE REQUESTS FOR MILITARY EQUIPMENT HAVE BEEN ROUTINELY PROCESSED. THE KEY TO THE CHANGE IN THE PRESIDENT'S TONE WAS THE DECISION TO GO FORWARD WITH THE SALE OF MUCH-NEEDED 5.56 AMMUNITION. AMONG OTHER THINGS, GOG SENSITIVITY TO ANY EVIDENCE OF AN EROSION OF U.S. NEUTRALITY ON BELIZE GAVE THE AMMUNITION DECISION HIGH SYMBOLIC VALUE.

BOSTER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESIDENT, MILITARY SALES, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 12-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977GUATEM05760
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770330-1165
Format: TEL
From: GUATEMALA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770975/aaaackk.tel
Line Count: 63
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: af138648-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION PM
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1311683
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENT LAUGERUD EXPRESSES SATISFACTION WITH US ARMS POSTURE
TAGS: MASS, GT, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/af138648-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009